



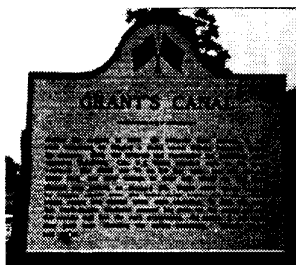
STONE WALL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Grant's Canal - The Unions's Attempt to Bypass Vicksburg



By May 1862, only Vicksburg and a Confederate fleet at Memphis stood in the way of Union domination of the Mississippi River. The Confederate fleet and Memphis fell in early June, leaving Vicksburg as the only Confederate stronghold on the river and the only connection to supplies in the west. Unable to subdue Vicksburg by military means, Grant turned to his engineers to build a canal around Vicksburg and gain control of the mighty Mississippi



Speaker: David F. Bastian

Date: Thursday, October 14, 1999, 7:30 PM

**Location: Manassas National Battlefield
Visitors Center**

Next Month

November 11, 1999: How Lee Lost the War
by Ed Bonekemper
7:30 PM, Centreville Library



**BULL RUN
CIVIL WAR
ROUNDTABLE
PO Box 196
Centreville VA 20122**

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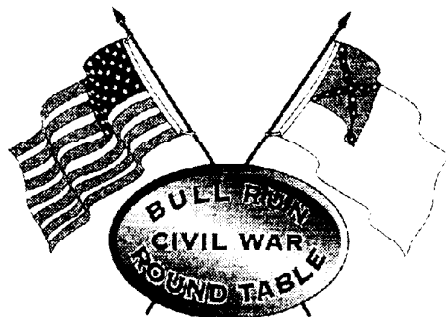
*The Stonewall is published monthly by
the Bull Run Civil War Roundtable*

*The Bull Run Civil War Round Table
meets the second Thursday of the at
7:30 PM*

*For October we meet at the **Manassas
Battlefield Visitor's Center***

***From November onward we meet at
the Centreville Regional Library**
14200 Germaine Drive
Centreville, Virginia 20121
Phone Number: 703/830-2223*

Visit our website at
<http://www.geocities.com/bullruncwrt/>



Dear Members:

Another month has come and gone. Fall is gone and winter looms just around the corner once more. Although I was unable to attend last month's meeting, I'm hearing that Mike Miller's Gettysburg talk was most interesting and thought provoking. Mike always makes an extra effort not just to read the words some historic figure may have written, but to analyze circumstances and cut through the words to get to the truth, a quality often lacking in Civil War literature. Thanks Mike, for a job well done.

Secondly, those of you who won the book raffle please see me at the October meeting and pick out your "prize." In order to make the book raffle more appealing, there will be at least one recent book for first prize at all meetings in the future. The current prize selection consists mainly of used books and a large number of books donated to us by the Civil War Society. Unfortunately, many of these books were donated to us because the Society could not find anyone willing to review them for their magazine. As you would expect, there are no works by Bearss, Krick, Gallagher, etc...

The prize packages for November will be:

- a. Two Civil War Weapons Videos (One on Colt firearms and the other on Bowie knives)
- b. The Vicksburg Package
Grant's Canal by David F. Bastian
Halleck: Lincoln's Chief of Staff by Stephen E. Ambrose
Seven Story Mountain: The Union Campaign at Vicksburg, by Phillip M. Theinell
- c. The Common Soldier Package
Civil War Letters and Diaries of Joel Molyneux, 141st Pennsylvania Infantry
Soldiers Blue and Gray by James I. Robertson, VPI

Special thanks are in order to John McAnaw for organizing the recent Fairfax Civil War Sites tour. Also, I must mention here that member Ed Wentzel, the Sage of Chantilly Battlefield, gave the best interpretation of that battle that I have ever hear. Hopefully VP McAnaw's Petersburg Tour will not be upset by the wet weather in southern Virginia. It has already been postponed once due to flooding. Please see the www.geocities.com/Bullruncwrt/ for any updates that might be posted at the last minute.

Please note that the Kernstown Tour has been postponed until November 20, 1999. There have been some positive developments in the preservation situation at Kernstown. Let's hope it continues.

Yours in the cause,

Scott C. Patchan

PRESERVATION CORNER, BY JOHN P. MCANAW

GOOD PRESERVATION NEWS FROM THE FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

We have run a number of tours of Civil War sites in the Centreville-Union Mills area. On several occasions, personnel from the Fairfax County Park Authority have graciously permitted us to visit two fenced Civil War sites vicinity Union Mills. Both are fortifications constructed by the Confederates during the fall-winter of 1861-1862. One is popularly called the "Great Redoubt" or "A-Fort", and the other is known as the "Ring Fort" or "Artillery Fort". Both of these sites were the property of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) and not the Fairfax County Park Authority.

During our visits to these fortifications and other similar sites, tour participants were asked to contact members of the BOS and urge them to expedite the transfer of these affected sites to the Fairfax County Park Authority.

Thanks to your efforts, plus the involvement of many other Fairfax County residents, 1,226 acres of land (including the "Great Redoubt" and the "Ring Fort") are now part of the holdings of the Fairfax County Park Authority. The actual vote by the members of BOS to turn over the land to the Park Authority occurred back in May 1999 but the transfer was not announced in the local newspapers until 9 September 1999. This is an election year.

Another initiative lobbied for by members of the BRCWRT has also been approved by the BOS. At its first meeting in September 1999, the BOS approved the expenditure of \$150K for a complete inventory of Civil War sites in Fairfax County. Elliott Gruber, Executive Vice President of The Civil War Trust, and I met with Chairman Kate Hanley and other County Supervisors on a number of occasions when, inter alia, the inventory of Civil War sites was discussed.

RESERVATION - THE BIG PICTURE

The October 1999 issue of The Civil War News contains an update by Frances H. Kennedy of the Conservation Fund regarding the preservation status of the major battlefields of the Civil War, plus some excellent advice on how to save sites not yet touched by land maulers. Permit me to cite some of the interesting points of the article:

- In 1993 the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission designated the 384 principal battlefields of the war.
- At present, 158 have some degree of protection and the remaining 226 are unprotected.
- Over 80 battlefields are destroyed or fragmented by development.
- The Richard King Mellon and The Gilder Foundation either donated land at important battlefields or funded preservation projects on numerous battlefields.
- In FY 1998, Congress appropriated \$8M for battlefield preservation.

- Battlefield preservation urgently needs millions of dollars from both the private and public sectors to acquire threatened land.

Frances Kennedy recommended local, state, and national actions to create preservation partnerships. Further, she stated "We need dynamic partnerships that focus public and private resources on our battlefields; major funding by federal, state and local governments, including full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, as well as private sector donations and grants."

For more information regarding the activities of The Conservation Fund write to:

1800 North Kent Street
Suite 1120
Arlington, VA 22209-2156

visit the Fund's Web Site - <http://www.conservationfund.org>

The Web Site has a complete preservation status report on all 384 principal battlefields.

BRCWRT TOURS

PETERSBURG CAMPAIGN TOUR - POSTPONED

Part II of the Petersburg Campaign Tour, scheduled for 2-3 October 1999, has been postponed to an unspecified future date due to damage to roads and other sites of interest by Hurricane Floyd and subsequent heavy rains. More information on this tour will be in the next newsletter.

KERNSTOWN TOUR POSTPONED UNTIL NOVEMBER 20, 1999 - Details will be in November's Newsletter.

AFTER ACTION REPORT: CIVIL WAR TOUR OF FAIRFAX CITY-VIENNA AND VICINITY - John P. McAnaw

Saturday, 11 September, was a great day for a tour. The tour began at the Ox Hill Battlefield and ended at a questionable Union fortification in Freedom Hill Park, a seven acre tract that straddles the boundary between the City of Vienna and Fairfax County. Other notable sites visited included the Confederate Cemetery (Fairfax City Cemetery); a section of the independent line of the Manassas Gap Railroad; Blenheim (Wilcoxon Estate); and the Union Star Fort in Vienna. A total of 24 members and guests participated in the tour. Their names are:

Mary Ahrens, Nancy Anwyll, John Beck, Dominic Bumbaca, Elfie Bumbaca, Harriett Condon, Rod Duckworth, John DePue, Bill Etue, David Galloway, Janet Greentree, Bob Hickey, Emily Knowles, Mark Knowles, Drew Lavan, John McAnaw, Peter McConkey, Kevin Moriarty, Jack Nance, Scott Patchan, Bev Regeimbal, Chris Soester, Ed Wenzel, Keith Young

After Action Report continued

Courtesy of the leadership of American Legion Post #180, Vienna, we ate lunch in the Post's picnic area which also happens to be within the Union Star Fort.

I want to extend my personal thanks to the following individuals and organizations for making this tour a worthwhile event for our members and guests:

Ed Wenzel - Ox Hill Battlefield presentation, Pat Pflugshaupt, Arthur F. Little, and Julia A. Little - Historic Fairfax, Inc., Tour of Blenheim, Michael Berger - American Legion Post #180, Tour of Star Fort, Cindy Archer - Manager, American Legion Post #180, Vienna

OCTOBER BATTLES

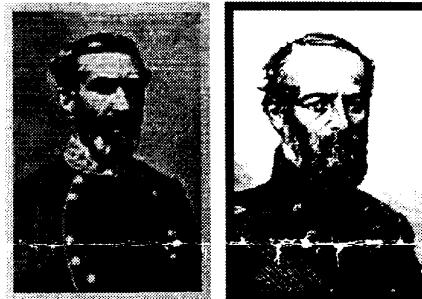
October 21, 1861 – Balls Bluff - Confederate Brig. Gen. Nathan "Shanks" Evans stopped a badly coordinated attempt by Union forces under Brig. Gen. Charles P. Stone to cross the Potomac at Harrison's Island and capture Leesburg. A timely Confederate counterattack drove the Federals over the bluff and into the river. More than 700 Federals were captured. Col. Edward D. Baker (a U.S. Senator) was killed. This Union rout had severe political ramifications in Washington and led to the establishment of the Congressional Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War

October 8, 1862 – Perryville - Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg's autumn 1862 invasion of Kentucky had reached the outskirts of Louisville and Cincinnati, but he was forced to retreat and regroup. On October 7, the Federal army of Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell, numbering nearly 55,000, converged on the small crossroads town of Perryville, Kentucky, in three columns. Union forces first skirmished with Rebel cavalry on the Springfield Pike before the fighting became more general, on Peters Hill, as the grayclad infantry arrived. The next day, at dawn, fighting began again around Peters Hill as a Union division advanced up the pike, halting just before the Confederate line. The fighting then stopped for a time. After noon, a Confederate division struck the Union left flank and forced it to fall back. When more Confederate divisions joined the fray, the Union line made a stubborn stand, counterattacked, but finally fell back with some troops routed. Buell did not know of the happenings on the field, or he would have sent forward some reserves. Even so, the Union troops on the left flank, reinforced by two brigades, stabilized their line, and the Rebel attack sputtered to a halt. Later, a Rebel brigade assaulted the Union division on the Springfield Pike but was repulsed and fell back into Perryville. The Yankees pursued, and skirmishing occurred in the streets in the evening before dark. Union reinforcements were threatening the Rebel left flank by now. Bragg, short of men and supplies, withdrew during the night, and, after pausing at Harrodsburg, continued the Confederate retrograde by way of Cumberland Gap into East Tennessee. The Confederate offensive was over, and the Union controlled Kentucky.

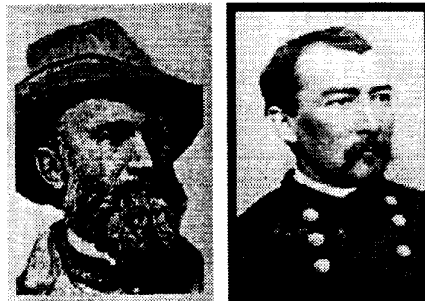
October 14, 1863 – Bristoe Station On October 14, 1863, A.P. Hill's corps stumbled upon two corps of the retreating Union army at Bristoe Station and attacked without proper reconnaissance. Union soldiers of the II Corps, posted behind the Orange & Alexandria Railroad embankment, mauled two brigades of Henry Heth's division and captured a battery of

artillery. Hill reinforced his line but could make little headway against the determined defenders. After this victory, the Federals continued their withdrawal to Centreville unmolested. Lee's Bristoe offensive sputtered to a premature halt. After minor skirmishing near Manassas and Centreville, the Confederates retired slowly to Rappahannock River destroying the Orange & Alexandria Railroad as they went. At Bristoe Station, Hill lost standing in the eyes of Lee, who angrily ordered him to bury his dead and say no more about it.

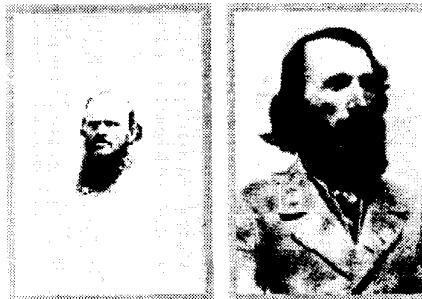
Cedar Creek – October 19, 1864 - At dawn, October 19, 1864, the Confederate Army of the Valley under Lt. Gen. Jubal A. Early surprised the Federal army at Cedar Creek and routed the VIII and XIX Army Corps. Commander Maj. Gen. Philip Sheridan arrived from Winchester to rally his troops, and, in the afternoon, launched a crushing counterattack, which recovered the battlefield. Sheridan's victory at Cedar Creek broke the back of the Confederate army in the Shenandoah Valley. Lincoln rode the momentum of Sheridan's victories in the Valley and Sherman's successes in Georgia to re-election.



(Braxton Bragg, Don Carlos Buell)



(Jubal Early, Phil Sheridan)



("Shank" Evans, A.P. Hill)

Upcoming Events

October 10 – Manassas Visitors Center – Fall Hike – Fall hike of the First Manassas Battlefield, five-mile walk begins at 1pm at Henry Hill visitor center. Free with park admission. (703)361-1339

October 12 - Robert E. Lee Memorial Service at Lee Chapel in Lexington. Noon. Free. (540) 463-3777 or www.lexingtonvirginia.com.

October 14 - Lecture, topic TBA, at the Rappahannock Regional Library, 1201 Caroline St., in Fredericksburg. 7-9 pm. Free. Sponsored by the Friends of the Fredericksburg Area Battlefields. (540) 972-9954

October 15 – 17 – Ultimate Harpers Ferry Tour –includes tours of Chambersburg (PA) sites and the Harpers Ferry National Historic Park. Guides include Ted Alexander and Dennis Frye. Space is limited. Call (717) 264-7101.

October 15-17 - Conference on the Art of Command in the Civil War in Middleburg includes presentations by noted historians on Saturday and a tour of the Brandy Station battlefield on Sunday. General admission is \$195 includes banquet and bus tour. (800) 752-6118

October 15-17 - Annual Battle of Cedar Creek Reenactment, on the historic battlefield just south of Middletown. Camps open Noon-7 pm Friday, 10 am-6 pm Saturday, and 10 am-5 pm Sunday. Battles 4 pm Friday, 3 pm Saturday and 2 pm Sunday. Demonstrations scheduled during weekend. \$20 all three days, \$10 daily, \$15 weekend. Proceeds benefit battlefield preservation and interpretation. (540) 869-2064. www.winchesterva.com/cedarcreek. E-mail cedarcrk@visuallink.com

October 16 – Living history, "Confederate Steward," at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 11 am-3 pm. Free with admission. (301) 695-1864. www.CivilWarMed.org

October 16 - Civil War encounter, "John Brown's Raid on Harpers Ferry, 1859." living history at the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond. 2 pm. Free with admission. (804) 649-1861

October 16-17 - Living history weekend at Drewry's Bluff, part of the Richmond National Battlefield Park. Encampments and more. 10 am - 5 pm Saturday, 10 am-4 pm Sunday. Free. (804) 226-1981

October 16-17 – Pamplin Historical Park - Civil War Symposium: "The Common Soldier" will explore the Civil War from the viewpoint of the 3 million Union and Confederate soldiers who displayed legendary courage and fortitude. Call toll free (877) 861-2820 or (804) 861-2408 or write: Pamplin Historical Park, 6125 Boydton Plank Road, Petersburg, VA 23803

October 17 - Fall Hike on the Second Manassas Battlefield. five-mile walk begins at 1 pm at the Stuart's Hill center. Free with park admission. (703) 361-1339

October 17 - Living history, "The Army of the Peninsula's Headquarters at Lee's Farm," Confederate officers explain their roles and the battles at Lee Hall in Newport News. Programs at 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 pm. Free with admission. (757) 888-3371.

October 22-23 - Campfire Tales, "Ghosts of the Civil War." Walks through Endview Plantation in Newport News will reveal battlefield spirits and the Civil War as it really was. Begins at 7 pm. Admission charged. (757) 887-1862

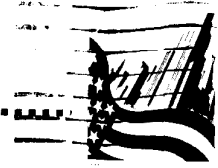
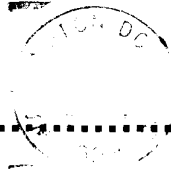
October 23 - Ghost Cadet tour at the New Market state battlefield park features stories of the Virginia Military Institute cadets. Begins early evening. \$5 adults. \$4 kids. (540) 740-3101.

October 23-24- Living history, "The Battlefield Embalmer," at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. Noon-4 pm. Free with admission. (301) 695-1864. www.CivilWarMed.org

October 24 - Living history, "Civil War Medical Practices," at Mount Bleak in Sky Meadows State Park, off route 17 in Fauquier County. 2:30-3:30 pm. Park fees apply. (540) 592-2556

October 30 - "A Civil War Hallow's Eve." Civil War ghosts and unexplained phenomenon at the Petersburg National Battlefield. 6:30 pm. Park fees charged. (804) 732-3531

October 30-31 - Living history, "Gosline's Zouaves" at the Pennsylvania Monument at the Gettysburg National Park. (717) 334-1124



**BULL RUN
 CIVIL WAR
 ROUND TABLE**
 PO Box 186
 Centreville, VA 20122

exp. Dec:99
 Kevin Anastas
 6306 Drill Field Court
 Centreville, VA 20121

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